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December 29, 2005

Mr. John Tolley
Planning Director
Alaska DOT/PF
P. O. Box 196900
Anchorage, AK 99519-6900

Mr. Jeff Ottesen
Deputy Commissioner
Alaska DOT/PF
3132 Channel Drive
Suite 200
Juneau, AK 99801-7898



Subject: Restore to STIP Seward Highway Improvements Anchorage/Potter Marsh to Bird Creek

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to request in the strongest possible terms that Seward Highway Improvements from Anchorage/Potter Marsh to Bird Creek be restored to the State Transportation Improvement Plan.

You have heard from many Seward Highway users and safety professionals that the Anchorage to Girdwood portion of the Seward Highway is one of the deadliest in the State. I am pleading with you to take this opportunity to save lives and improve state economics by putting this improvement project back on the STIP. I ask you furthermore to take a proactive stance by designing for these improvements a four lane divided grade highway between Potter Marsh and Bird Creek. The first step in the process is to get this portion of the Seward Highway back on the STIP.

The third passing lane designed for the Bird Creek to Girdwood Seward Highway improvement has already proven to be a safety deterrent rather than an improvement. The only way to mitigate the tragedy of headon collisions is to separate the lanes of oncoming traffic.

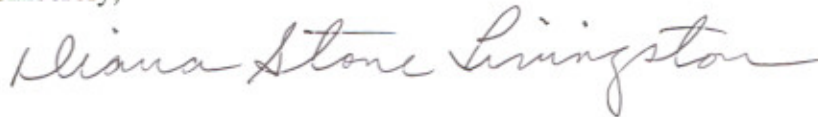
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Increased trooper patrols cannot be relied upon to solve the problem of poor highway design. As long as the human factors of substance abuse and disregard for safe driving practices continue to be mixed with the geography and weather prevalent along Turnagain Arm we will continue to experience the devastating accidents and deaths of past years, and this is not acceptable.

Seward Highway use will increase dramatically within the next five to ten years due to more activity from Seward, Whittier, the Kenai Peninsula and planned growth in Girdwood. Factors that are problems now will only increase in magnitude with more vehicles on the road.

Please take the first step now by restoring the Seward Highway Improvements Potter Marsh to Bird Creek to the current STIP. Thank you for your foresight and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana Stone Livingston". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Diana Stone Livingston

Copies to:

Mr. David Post, AK DOT/PF
State Rep. Mike Hawker
State Sen. Con Bunde
Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich
Anchorage Assembly Janice Shamberg
Anchorage Assembly Chris Birch
Girdwood Board of Supervisors
Mr. Jim Barnett
Girdwood 2020